

Alabama First Responder Wireless Commission Meeting
April 23, 2013
Montgomery, AL

In Attendance:

Michael Barton, Alabama Sheriffs Association
Ernie Blair, Huntsville Madison County 911/Alabama NENA
Brent Cord, Alabama Forestry Commission
John Goff, Alabama Forestry Commission
Stephen Grigsby, Alabama National Guard
Jeb Hargrove, Alabama Emergency Management Agency
J.T Johnston, Monroe County EMA
Michael Lee, Jefferson County 911
Eric Linsley, 700MHz Region One Chair
Jon Lord, Alabama Fire Chiefs
Gary Mackey, Alabama Department of Public Health
Chris McGhee, Poarch Creek Indians
Charles Murph, Alabama Department of Homeland Security
James Patterson, Alabama Department of Public Safety
Michael Stokes, Alabama Department of Transportation
Toni Thomas, Alabama Emergency Management Agency
Walter Steven Thompson, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Michael Smith, Southern Linc
Michelle Pilgreen, Southern Linc
Brad Smith, Alabama Forestry Commission

9:40am Meeting Called To Order

Welcome – Shirrell Roberts

Motion to Accept January 22, 2013 Meeting Minutes made by Jon Lord; Seconded by Walter Stephen Thompson

Project 25 Subcommittee Report – Mike Lee

- Interoperability needs MOU
- Mike Murphy, Public Information Director of the Alabama State Senate, attended the meeting
- Subcommittee Conference Call within the next few weeks

State Agencies Subcommittee – Jeb Hargrove

- 95% of towers identified
- Late May to early June, tower information will be put into GIS format
- Would like to have joint subcommittee meeting

Alabama First Responder Wireless Commission Legislature

- HB92 passed in the State House, Sent to the State Senate

- SB219 and HB92 have the same language to allow the Alabama First Responder Wireless Commission to transcend Governor terms for continuity

Mobile Broadband Usage Survey Overview

- Data collected through March 2013
- 146 agencies responded; 10,182 employees responded
- 56% of State Agencies use Commercial Wireless providers
- Verizon is the primary commercial provider used
- 67% of Surveyed responded that the use of mobile data is mission critical in daily operations
- The primary implementation barrier at this time is cost
- 65% of Surveyed are allowed the use of their personal devices with no compensation
- 61% of Surveyed indicate NPSBN Migration is limited by costs only if costs exceed current costs
- Wireless coverage difficult due to rural areas of Alabama
- Unsure how infrastructure capacity will be handled
- Continue to promote survey use;
http://publicsafetytools.info/mobile_data_survey/index.php

Substantial Service Certification for WPTZ783 – Eric Linsley

- The State is Licensed to use Channels 769-775
- First build out date June 13, 2014
- State licensed 192 Channels
- Substantial Service deadline to 1/3 of state population June 13, 2014
- Substantial Service deadline to 2/3 of state population June 13, 2019
- No fixed sites listed; is a geographic license
- Currently the frequency is unused
- Recommendations:
 - Place administrative responsibility under P25 subcommittee
 - Modify WPTZ783 – change POC and Address
 - Create an approval process so State Agencies can apply to use state license frequencies to Alabama First Responder Wireless Commission
 - Appoint a State License Coordinator
- Recommendations need more discussion
 - Needs to be a joint venture between the State and P25 subcommittees
 - In other States there is a “Frequency Coordinator”
- Discussion tabled until next Alabama First Responder Wireless Commission meeting
 - Prepare to act on recommendations in next meeting
 - What are grounds for approval and denial for state license?
 - Procedure to be set

State and Local Implementation Grant Program (SLIGP)

- State and Local Implementation Grant Program imitative outlined in Title VI
- Award\$ 2,094,000 State Match \$523,500 for a total \$2,617,500
- How will state match be made?

- A letter has been sent for a match waiver
- 10% to 12% of match may be waived

Next Meeting Date

- Waiting for HB92 approval and SLIGP Award
- If HB92 is passed, more people will be added to Alabama First Responder Wireless Commission

Action Items

- Involve Windell Wood with Alabama Public Television with State Agency Subcommittee

Motion to Adjourn made by Ernie Blair; Seconded by Eric Linsley

10:27 Meeting Adjourned